

VT Summer BLAST 2019

POLICIES AND INFORMATION

The philosophy for VT Summer BLAST is one of education, safety, and student responsibility. We focus on the growth and development of individual student potential by encouraging responsibility and respect for self and others in the VT Summer BLAST camp community. Please read the following documents carefully.

Check In and Check Out

Participants will check in between 3:00 and 4:00 PM on Sunday, June 16 or Sunday, July 7 and check out between 8:30 and 9:30 AM on Wednesday, June 19 or Wednesday, July 10.

Living on Campus

During check-in each participant will be assigned a room and issued a room key. Two students are assigned to each room. Rooms are air conditioned and contain two beds, two desks, two dressers, and ceiling lights. In addition, each participant will be issued a pillow, pillowcase, two flat sheets, two towels and a washcloth (see suggested packing list). We encourage participants to bring a blanket or other bed cover. It is up to each participant to furnish any other items he/she considers necessary. Participants are ultimately responsible for the security of any items they bring. Room doors should be locked at night and when rooms are vacant.

There will be four male and four female teacher-chaperones residing with the participants. In addition, three male and two female Residence Hall Assistants (RHAs) will be living with participants in the dorm. The RHAs are current Virginia Tech students majoring in STEM-related fields. These adults will be responsible for the safety and care of participants during the program. Staff will be officially introduced at the evening program on Wednesday night.

VT Summer BLAST reserves the right to have authorized staff enter any student's room without notice if reasonable cause suggests that the code of conduct policies are being violated.

Maid service is not available, so participants are expected to keep the area they live in reasonably neat. Dorms have bathing facilities that are maintained by the housekeeping staff, but it is recommended that participants bring shower shoes and a robe. Other items to bring are included on the suggested packing list. Participants will have access to coin operated laundry facilities.

Clothing and Personal Items

The key word here is comfort. Summertime in Virginia typically means hot and humid weather. Participants will be doing A LOT of walking throughout the program, so please be sure to bring comfortable closed-toes shoes. Most people wear T-shirts, shorts, capris, pants, summer skirts, or cotton dresses. **Please make sure that shorts are an appropriate length and that running shorts are not worn.** Do not forget to bring an umbrella or other rain gear since the program will go on, rain or shine. The weather in Blacksburg is unpredictable, and there may be some cool days. Therefore, it is suggested that participants also bring a sweater, sweatshirt and/or jacket and long pants for unexpected weather changes and to stay warm in air-conditioned classrooms. Some of the activities and tours will require that closed toed shoes and long pants be worn. Please be sure to bring all personal hygiene items, including deodorant, feminine products, shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste/toothbrush, and soap.

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Do not bring clothing with language or images that are vulgar, discriminatory, or obscene or clothing that promotes illegal or violent conduct such as the unlawful use of weapons, drugs/drug paraphernalia, alcohol, or tobacco. In addition, do not bring clothing that exposes cleavage, the midriff, or undergarments.

Daily Schedule

The final activity schedule including locations will be given out at check-in. In general, hands-on activities, tours, and information sessions will be held from 8:15 AM to 5:15 PM each day with a standard lunch and dinner break. Participants' work will not be graded but we encourage active participation from each camper. The evening programs will be planned and led by the RHAs and will include engineering design challenges and a student panel.

Participants are NOT permitted to leave the Virginia Tech campus except during planned off-campus activities.

Spending Money

Participants may desire or need a small amount of cash (\$5-\$10) for souvenirs, entertainment, shopping, and miscellaneous expenses, etc.

Buddy System

During the duration of VT Summer BLAST we require that participants are always with at least one other camp participant or staff member. This requirement includes walking to and from activities, meals and other activities as well as during designated free time. **Students in violation of this policy will be dismissed from the program and sent home.**

Curfew

Camp participants will have a curfew of 11:00 PM to 6:00 AM Sunday through Wednesday. This curfew means that participants must be in their residence hall rooms with lights out by 11:00 PM. We encourage participants to get a solid night's sleep to remain attentive and interactive in all activities. Teacher-chaperones will check for curfew violations. **All students will be given one warning; a second curfew violation will result in a participant being dismissed from the program and sent home.**

Visitation

Participants are not allowed to have visitors in their rooms other than VT Summer BLAST 2017 participants or staff, teachers/chaperones, their parents/guardians, additional family members, and/or accompanying friends during move in/out. In addition, VT Summer BLAST participants are not allowed to be in other residence hall rooms of current Virginia Tech students, other summer camp participants, or summer conference attendees. **Any student found in violation of the visitation policy will be dismissed from the program and sent home.**

Standards of Conduct

Any of the following occurrences result in expulsion from VT Summer BLAST. Parent(s)/guardian(s) will be notified by phone through a conference call with the participant and VT Summer BLAST Director. The parent(s)/guardian(s) will then be responsible for picking up their child from campus or reimbursing the CEED Office for the bus ticket home.

- Using or possessing alcoholic beverages, tobacco, or illegal substances of any type

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- Possessing or using weapons of any kinds
- Committing any act of violence
- Intentionally damaging or stealing the property of Virginia Tech, VT Summer BLAST, or another individual
- Exhibiting potentially harmful behavior to self or others
- Disrespecting faculty, staff, presenters, other students, University employees, or others on campus
- Violation of the Visitation or Buddy System
- 2nd violation of the Curfew policy

Summer Access Card & Room Key

Each participant will receive a Summer Access Card and a room key during check-in. Summer Access Cards are programmed to allow access to the residence hall from outside doors as well as the elevator room. Room keys provide access to individual residence hall rooms. In addition, Summer Access Cards will serve as meal cards for the duration of camp. It is each individual's responsibility to keep track of his/her Summer Access Card and room key. A replacement room key has a charge of \$50.00 and will be billed to the participant.

Meals & Snacks

The Summer Access Card provides for the costs of three meals per day beginning with dinner on Sunday, June 16th or July 7th and ending with breakfast Wednesday, June 19th or July 10th. Students are required to eat all meals on campus on the upper level of Dietrick Dining Center (D2) during designated hours. <http://www.dining.vt.edu/centers/d2.php>. Program staff will conduct a breakfast check each morning to ensure students are not late for weekday activities. Participants may want to purchase snacks to consume between meals at the Dietrick Convenience Store adjacent to the dining hall.

Cell Phones/Email

Participants will be required to silence their cell phones during all activities. Participants will be allowed to use their phones during breaks and free time. If a student violates this policy, the cell phone will be confiscated and returned to the student upon check-out. Wireless access for computers will not be available for participants.

Students and parents will receive a list of phone numbers for emergency contact prior to the BLAST session.

Medical Facilities

Schiffert Health Center is the campus health center and Montgomery Regional Hospital is 10 minutes from campus. Participants may take advantage of either facility if the need arises. If participants have any special medical problems, we need to know about them in advance. This includes food and other allergies and any other conditions or special needs. Allergy medicine for injections, etc. may be stored and administered at the campus health center. Please let us know if this service is necessary and we will make arrangements. All participants will be given cell phone numbers of program staff in case of emergency. Do not hesitate to call the staff if the need arises. **Please do not forget to bring any required medications.**

Quality wellness and health services offered by physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, health educators, and certified college health nurses are available at the Schiffert Health Center. The

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staff also includes pharmacists, medical technologists, and radiological technologists. Services include: primary ambulatory health care, medication for acute illnesses, radiological and laboratory procedures, allergy injections and tuberculin tests, a Wellness Resource Room, a travel clinic, and a women's clinic. The Virginia Tech Rescue Squad and the Blacksburg Volunteer Rescue Squad provide emergency services to the campus and local community.

Montgomery Regional Hospital is located on Route 460 on the southern edge of Blacksburg. It is a full-accredited, 146-bed general acute care facility providing medical, surgical, obstetrical, pediatric, emergency, and outpatient services.

We look forward to meeting you on June 16th or July 7th ! Safe travels to Blacksburg.